

REMARKS

Applicant traverses the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8, and 9 over Ogisu (JP 08-092752) in view of Harada (JP 01-092377). Applicant also traverses the § 103(a) rejection of claims 3 and 7 over Harada in view of Asakura (JP 10-088361).

The Examiner's arguments are based on machine translations of the three cited Japanese references. For clarity of the record, Applicant submits herewith certified English translations of JP 08-092752 (Ogisu), JP 01-092377 (Harada), and JP 10-088361 (Asakura).

Applicant has amended claims 1 and 5 to recite that the wavelength of the ultraviolet range irradiating the resin material is from 150 nm to 200 nm. This claim language is supported at paragraph [0023] of the present specification, and is not new matter. Irradiating the resin with ultraviolet rays in the claimed wavelength range provides advantages disclosed, e.g., in paragraph [0019] of the specification.

The Examiner correctly observed that Ogisu does not teach that the placing/contacting step is done while irradiating the resin material with ultraviolet rays. Review of the attached certified English translation of Ogisu confirms the absence of a disclosure of irradiation with ultraviolet rays, and particularly an absence of a disclosure of irradiation with ultraviolet rays having a wavelength of 150 nm to 200 nm.

Harada, as disclosed at paragraph [0007] of the attached certified English translation, discloses a wavelength of ultraviolet irradiation of 253.7 nm, which is outside the claimed range of 150 nm - 200 nm.

Asakura discloses at paragraph [0008] of the certified English translation an ultraviolet wavelength range of 200-400 nm, which is outside the claimed range of 150 nm - 200 nm.

No combination of these three references, therefore, can produce a *prima facie* case of obviousness under § 103(a). *In re Rouffet*, 149 F.3d 1350 (Fed. Cir. 1998). M.P.E.P. § 2143. Moreover, the teachings of radiation wavelength above 200 nm in Asakura and Harada teaches away from the claims, when these references are combined.

Applicant also traverses the Examiner's statement, at page 3, paragraph 7 of the Office Action, that the results in Table 1, related to Examples 1 and 2 have a very slight difference in comparison with Comparative Examples 1 and 2.

The Examiner states that when Examples 1 and 2 are compared with Comparative Examples 1 and 2, the results of adhesion appear to be merely a slight difference. Summing the adhesive strength at a treating time of seven minutes and that at a treating time of 10 minutes for Comparative Examples 1 and 2, the adhesive strength of the above becomes equivalent and greater than that of Examples 1 and 2.

As is apparent from the attached figure, however, in Comparative Example 1 (ultraviolet irradiation only), while the adhesive strength lowers at a treating time of 7 minutes or more, in each Example, even if at a treating time of 7 minutes or more, the adhesive strength improves along with the treating time. Furthermore, in Comparative example 2 (ozone solution treating only), the degree of improvement in the adhesive strength is small, and a sufficient adhesive strength cannot be obtained by short treatment. Accordingly, the effect of the claimed invention is that adhesive strength does not lower even if at a long treatment and that high adhesive strength appears at a short treatment. This is a surprising and unforeseeable result, which cannot be achieved by the cited references.

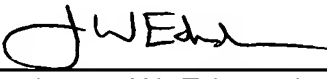
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: September 3, 2008

By: 
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Attachments: (1) Certified English translations of JP 08-092752, JP 01-092377,
and JP 10-088361;
(2) Reference Graph